**Note: Please leave this on the ambo, thanks.**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) - YEAR C**

**Introduction.**

Good morning / evening we welcome our parishioners to Mary Immaculate Quakers Hill/Schofields Parish.

In today’s Gospel, Christ calls blessed those who believe without seeing. Jesus had shown himself to the apostles—he is alive and reigns in glory. The response of Thomas is for every believer. We confess Jesus as our Lord and God though we have not seen him with our own eyes. Seeing him with the eyes of faith, we give testimony to this faith by our living hope and active service to our brothers and sisters.

Today also is Divine Mercy Sunday. This celebration is a perennial call to every Christian to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that humankind will experience in the years to come.

Our Mass will be celebrated today by:

Please stand and join in singing the Entrance Hymn.

**second Sunday OF easter (divine mercy sunday) - Year C**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

#### FIRST READING   (Acts 5:12-16)

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

*The Word of the Lord.*

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 117:2-4. 22-27. R. v.1)

***(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.***

#### 1. Let the sons of Israel say:

#### ‘His love has no end.’

#### Let the sons of Aaron say:

#### ‘His love has no end.’

#### Let those who fear the Lord say:

#### ‘His love has no end.’ (R.)

#### 2. The stone which the builders rejected

#### has become the corner stone.

#### This is the work of the Lord,

#### a marvel in our eyes.

#### This day was made by the Lord;

#### we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

#### 3. O Lord, grant us salvation;

#### O Lord grant success.

#### Blessed in the name of the Lord

#### is he who comes.

#### We bless you from the house of the Lord;

#### the true God is our light. (R.)

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#### SECOND READING  (Apoc 1:9-13, 17-19)

*A reading from the book of the Apocalypse*

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God’s word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord’s day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, ‘Write down all that you see in a book.’ I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, ‘Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.’

*The Word of the Lord.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;

happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL (Jn 20:19-31)

#### A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

#### In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, ‘Peace be with you,’ and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, ‘Peace be with you.

#### ‘As the Father sent me,

#### so am I sending you.’

#### After saying this he breathed on them and said:

#### ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.

#### For those whose sins you forgive,

#### they are forgiven;

#### for those whose sins you retain,

#### they are retained.’

#### Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, ‘We have seen the Lord’, he answered, ‘Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.’ Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. ‘Peace be with you’ he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.’ Thomas replied, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him:

#### ‘You believe because you can see me.

#### Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’

#### There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

#### The Gospel of the Lord.

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**2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) - YEAR C**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest**: — Lord Jesus, you said that you desire that the Feast of Mercy be a day of refuge and shelter for all souls, especially for us, poor sinners. Help us to approach this fount of mercy full of trust that You will grant us all our prayers if they be for the glory of God the Father and for the salvation of our souls.

**Reader:** — Lord Jesus, You entrust to the Apostles and to the Church the forgiveness of sins through the sacrament of Reconciliation. Help us poor sinners to humble ourselves, confess our sins, do penance, amend and live our lives as forgiven people. Today, we lift up to You Lord, the burden of all our sins and ask for Your forgiveness.

We pray:

**R — Jesus, we trust in You.**

**Reader:** Lord Jesus, You said to the Apostles: “I am with you always, yes until the end of time ”. May your Holy Spirit inflame our hearts with sincere love and reverence to the Blessed Eucharist and always remember how much you love us each time we partake in the breaking of the bread.

We pray:

**R — Jesus, we trust in You.**

**Reader:** Lord Jesus, You said that today “The very depths of My mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My Mercy. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened.” Your words, Oh Lord are Truth, the Way and the Life. We Believe.

We Pray:

**R — Jesus, we trust in You.**

**Reader:** Lord Jesus, we lift up to You all the leaders and those in authority that the Holy Spirit may enlighten and guide them to work not only for the common good but also for the benefit of the human Soul.

We pray:

**R — Jesus, we trust in You.**

**Reader:** Lord Jesus, we lift up to you the aged, disabled, lonely, divorced, separated, widowed and all the sick and the dying especially those ones whose names were written down and offered by the parish community.

We pray.

**R — Jesus, we trust in You.**

**Reader:** Eternal Father, Lord Jesus Christ and Most Holy Spirit, we lift up to You, all the deceased, especially, those who perished from natural disasters all over the world – earthquakes, tsunamis, floods – and those who died in wars and accidents. May you grant them peace and eternal rest.

We pray.

**R — Jesus, we trust in You.**

**Reader:** Together we now pray our parish community prayer for Easter:

**All:** God of power and might, by your Holy will you raised Jesus from the dead so that we might share his life eternally. As we rejoice and give you thanks for your great goodness and mercy, help us to reach out to those who do not yet believe in the truth of the gospel. Fill us with your compassion so that we may serve the weak and needy for love of you.

Strengthen the faith of our families so that we may grow together in love. May your joy grow in us day by day.

**Priest:** Father of mercies, in Jesus you have shown us your boundless love and infinite mercy. Teach us to love you in return, entrust our lives to your love and mercy, and serve you in our brothers and sisters. Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** **Amen.**